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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

KIYOSHI FUDA ET AL.

SERIAL NO: NEW U.S. PCT APPLN.

(Based on PCT/JP01/06452)

: ATTN: APPLICATION BRANCH

FILED: HEREWITH

FOR: TREATMENT PROCESS AND

TREATMENT MATERIAL OF FLUORINE COMPOUND

## **PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-application as follows.

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as shown in the marked-up copy following this amendment to read as follows.

3. (Amended) The treatment process of the solution containing the fluorine compound according to claim 1, the process further comprising,

adjusting pH of the solution to more than 4,

precipitating the layered double hydroxide having the fluorine compound between layers.

4. (Amended) The treatment process of the solution containing the fluorine compound according to claim 1, the process further comprising,

adding an alkali to the solution to adjust pH from 4 to 12,

